

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for treating ~~or preventing~~ endometriosis in a patient in need of such treatment ~~or prevention~~, ~~comprising~~ consisting of the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of: rofecoxib, etoricoxib, celecoxib, valdecoxib, lumiracoxib, BMS347070, tiracoxib, ABT963, CS502 and GW406381.
2. (Previously presented) A method for retarding the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient at risk of developing said lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously presented) A method for reversing the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient at risk of developing said lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.
5. (Original) A method for reducing number or severity of endometriotic lesions in a patient having said lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.
6. (Original) A method for retarding the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient with endometriosis of a type amenable to hormonal therapy, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

7. (Original) A method for preventing the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient with endometriosis of a type amenable to hormonal therapy, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.
8. (Original) A method for reversing the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient with endometriosis of a type amenable to hormonal therapy, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.
9. (Original) A method of inhibiting aromatase in a patient at risk of having endometriotic lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.
10. (Original) A method of reducing elevated levels of aromatase in a patient at risk of having endometriotic lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.
11. (Previously presented) A method of reducing elevated levels of aromatase in a patient with postmenopausal endometriosis, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is rofecoxib.
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is etoricoxib.
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is celecoxib.
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is valdecoxib.
21. (Cancelled)
22. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is concomitantly or sequentially co-administered with an oral contraceptive.
23. (Original) The method according to Claim 22 wherein the oral contraceptive is selected from the group consisting of: norethindrone, norethindrone acetate, chlormadione acetate, norethynodrel, norgestrel, medroxyprogesterone acetate, megestrol acetate, lynestrenol, quingestrone, ethynodiol acetate, and dimethisterone.
24. (Original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is administered perioperatively or as follow-up therapy to surgical removal of endometriotic implants.
25. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is concomitantly or sequentially co-administered with a GnRH agonist.
26. (Original) The method according to Claim 25 wherein the GnRH-agonist is selected from the group consisting of nafarelin acetate, leuprolide acetate, goserelin acetate, and buserelin acetate.